REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 4-6, and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Forbes et al., (U.S. Patent No. 2001/0029605), in view of both Hove et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,564,369) and Park (U.S. Patent No. 5,909,581).

Claims 2, 3, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Forbes et al., (U.S. Patent No. 2001/0029605), in view of both Hove et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,564,369) and Park (U.S. Patent No. 5,909,581) and further in view of Delo (U.S. Patent No. 6,804,663).

Claims 1 and 6 are cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice, claims 2-5 and 7-11 are amended, and, thus, claims 2-5 and 7-11 remain pending for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added in this amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The Office Action requests the Applicant to check the specification for possible minor errors. According to the foregoing, the specification is amended to correct minor error(s) as indicated. Support for the specification amendment can be found, for example, in FIG. 1 (200).

REJECTIONS

The independent claims are 1, 6 and 11. Dependent claims 2 and 7 are amended into independent form, and independent claim 11 is amended along the lines of new independent claims 2 and 7 by incorporating, for example, the features of dependent claim 2.

According to the claimed present invention, the system searches for a directory corresponding to maintenance data using "***identification information***" and when a directory having a name including the "***identification information***" is found, the maintenance data is copied to a maintenance target directory having this "***identification information***." See FIG. 2 of the present Application. Consequently, the claimed present invention provides a benefit that even in a case, for example, where a hard disc device is added in the client, or a system is introduced in which the directory structure of the database is different, so that the information of

the directory where the maintenance data is stored is different at each client, it is possible to find the maintenance data directory that is subject of an update by searching the maintenance data for the identification information that identifies a resource group with respect to the maintenance data. Another benefit of the claimed present invention is that the directories in which the maintenance data is stored can be unified.

Specifically, according to the claimed present invention, when a directory having the name including the "***identification information***" is detected, the maintenance target directory is generated by adding the relative directory information to layers from an uppermost detected directory layer as far as the identification information. Support for the claim amendments can be found, for example, in FIGS. 2 and 14 and page 23, line 13 to page 24, line 12, and page 11, line 7 to page 14, line 9, and page 10, lines 1-5, of the present Application.

The independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are rejected over Forbes, Hove and Park, and dependent claim 2 is rejected over Forbes, Hove, Park and Delo. Meanwhile, the cited reference Forbes discloses a method for updating software by downloading (installing) software (for example "CoolApp" or "CoolestApp"). When installing software, Forbes discusses creating a directory for the software, and the name of the directory is different for every computer by using a standard hashing algorithm (See Forbes paragraphs [0042-0046 and 0052-0057], which are relied upon in pages 5-6, item 5 of the Office Action to reject dependent claim 2). Therefore, Forbes fails to disclose or suggest the claimed present invention's generating a maintenance target directory by adding relative directory information (second directory portion) to identification directory information (first directory portion) from a topmost layer as far as a level having the identification information (i.e., "an application section that, when said maintenance data is transferred from said server computer, ***detects identification information that identifies said resource group contained in said maintenance data*** that was transferred from said directory, ~~of claim 1, wherein said application section~~ ***searches for ~~the layer, of said directories,~~a layer of said directory layers that has said identification information, ~~and~~ generates ~~the~~a maintenance target directory for applying said maintenance data by adding a second directory portion, which was registered beforehand, under ~~the~~a first directory portion from ~~the~~a topmost layer of said directories as far as ~~the~~a level having the identification information contained in said maintenance data which was transferred***, and applies said maintenance data which was transferred to ~~this~~the maintenance target directory" (e.g., claim 2)). In the claimed present invention, the maintenance target directory of the every client includes

common ***directory names of the identification information*** and ***the relative directory information*** (see FIG. 2 of the present Application). Since the directory name of the maintenance target directory in every client has common name, even when the directory structures are different in the clients, it is effective to manage the maintenance target directory and it is possible to apply the maintenance data to the correct directory. In other words, Forbes fails to disclose or suggest the claimed present invention's, "***detects identification information that identifies said resource group contained in said maintenance data*** that was transferred from said directory," to provide the claimed present invention's, " ***searches for ~~the layer, of said directories,~~a layer of said directory layers that has said identification information, ~~and~~ generates ~~the~~a maintenance target directory for applying said maintenance data by adding a second directory portion, which was registered beforehand, under ~~the~~a first directory portion from ~~the~~a topmost layer of said directories as far as ~~the~~a level having the identification information contained in said maintenance data which was transferred***, and applies said maintenance data which was transferred to ~~this~~the maintenance target directory" (e.g., claim 2).

Hove and Park are relied upon by the Office Action for the claimed present invention's "monitoring and notification," and therefore Hove and Park fail to disclose or suggest the claimed present invention's, "an application section that, when said maintenance data is transferred from said server computer, ***detects identification information that identifies said resource group contained in said maintenance data*** that was transferred from said directory, ~~of claim 1, wherein said application section~~ ***searches for ~~the layer, of said directories,~~a layer of said directory layers that has said identification information, ~~and~~ generates ~~the~~a maintenance target directory for applying said maintenance data by adding a second directory portion, which was registered beforehand, under ~~the~~a first directory portion from ~~the~~a topmost layer of said directories as far as ~~the~~a level having the identification information contained in said maintenance data which was transferred***, and applies said maintenance data which was transferred to ~~this~~the maintenance target directory" (e.g., claim 2).

Delo is relied upon by the Office Action for the claimed present invention's, "second directory portion which was registered beforehand," and therefore Delo fails to disclose or suggest the claimed present invention's, "an application section that, when said maintenance data is transferred from said server computer, ***detects identification information that identifies said resource group contained in said maintenance data*** that was transferred

from said directory, ~~of claim 1, wherein said application section~~ ***searches for ~~the layer, of said directories,~~a layer of said directory layers that has said identification information, ~~and~~ generates ~~the~~a maintenance target directory for applying said maintenance data by adding a second directory portion, which was registered beforehand, under ~~the~~a first directory portion from ~~the~~a topmost layer of said directories as far as ~~the~~a level having the identification information contained in said maintenance data which was transferred***, and applies said maintenance data which was transferred to ~~this~~the maintenance target directory" (e.g., claim 2).

Therefore, a combined system of Forbes, Hove, Park and Delo fail to disclose or suggest the claimed present invention as recited in independent claims 2, 7 and 11, using claim 2 as an example, as follows:

> 2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The~~A distributed computer system, comprising:
>
> a plurality of client computers in which is stored a file group including files managed in each resource group under a directory constituted by a plurality of layers; and
>
> a server computer that transfers to each of the client computers maintenance data for updating files managed in each of said resource groups;
>
> wherein said client computers comprise:
>
> an application section that, when said maintenance data is transferred from said server computer, ***detects identification information that identifies said resource group contained in said maintenance data*** that was transferred from said directory, ~~of claim 1, wherein said application section~~ ***searches for ~~the layer, of said directories,~~a layer of said directory layers that has said identification information, ~~and~~ generates ~~the~~a maintenance target directory for applying said maintenance data by adding a second directory portion, which was registered beforehand, under ~~the~~a first directory portion from ~~the~~a topmost layer of said directories as far as ~~the~~a level having the identification information contained in said maintenance data which was transferred***, and applies said maintenance data which was transferred to ~~this~~the maintenance target directory, and
>
> a monitoring and notification section that monitors to ascertain whether a plurality of items of identical identification information are present in said directories and, if a plurality of items of identical identification information are present, notifies said server computer of abnormality (emphasis added).

In view of the claim amendments and remarks withdrawal of the rejections of pending claims and allowance of pending claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
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